



Gulf of Mexico Harmful Algal Bloom Bulletin

Region: Texas

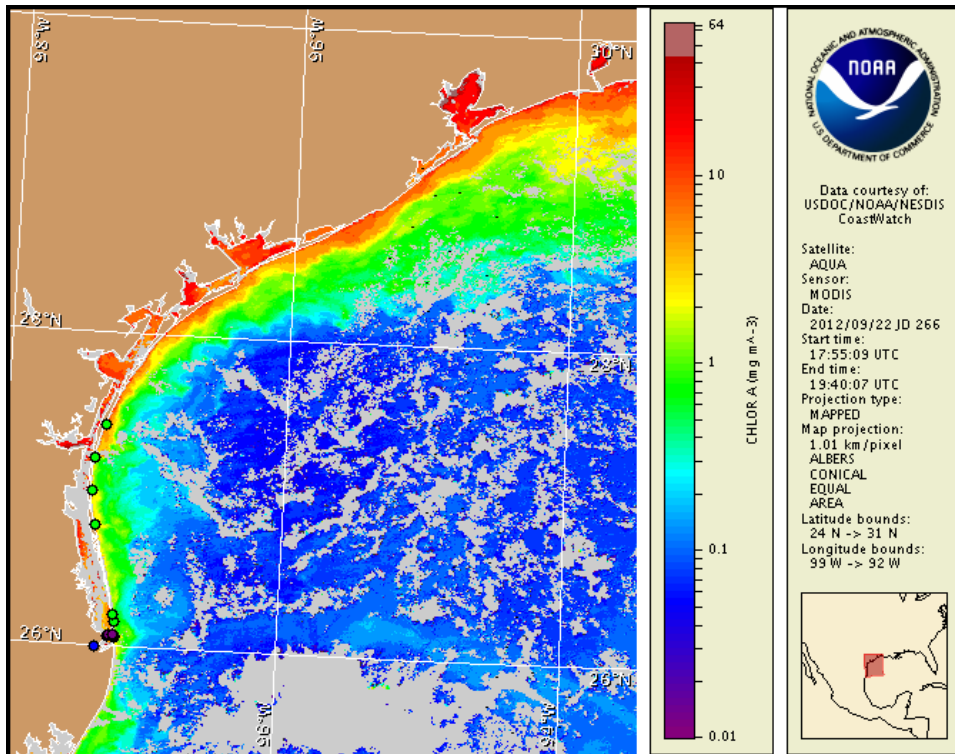
Monday, 24 September 2012

NOAA Ocean Service

NOAA Satellite and Information Service

NOAA National Weather Service

Last bulletin: Monday, September 17, 2012



Satellite chlorophyll image with possible HAB areas shown by red polygon(s). Cell concentration sampling data from September 14 to 21 shown as red (high), orange (medium), yellow (low b), brown (low a), blue (very low b), purple (very low a), pink (present), and green (not present). For a list of cell count data providers and a key to the cell concentration categories, please see the HAB-OFS bulletin guide:

http://tidesandcurrents.noaa.gov/hab/habfs_bulletin_guide.pdf

Detailed sample information can be obtained through the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department at:

<http://www.tpwd.state.tx.us/landwater/water/enviroconcerns/hab/redtide/status.phtml>

To see previous bulletins and forecasts for other Harmful Algal Bloom Bulletin regions, visit the NOAA Harmful Algal Bloom Operational Forecast System bulletin archive:

<http://tidesandcurrents.noaa.gov/hab/bulletins.html>

Conditions Report

There is currently no indication of a harmful algal bloom of *Karenia brevis* (commonly known as Texas red tide) at the coast in Texas. Harmful algae has been identified in the South Padre Island region. No respiratory impacts are expected alongshore Texas today through Sunday, September 30. For information on area shellfish restrictions, contact the Texas Department of State Health Services.

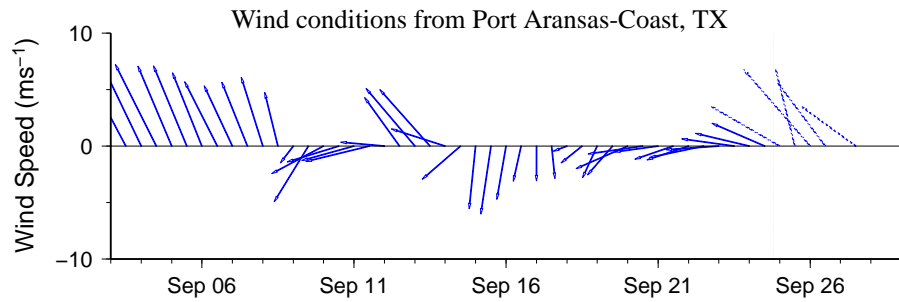
Analysis

There is currently no indication of a harmful algal bloom of *Karenia brevis* at the coast in Texas. 'Very low a' concentrations of *K. brevis* have been identified within the lower Laguna Madre at the east and west ends of the Queen Isabella Causeway, and 'very low b' concentrations identified at Port Isabel (South Point Marina) and within San Martin Pass (9/20; TPWD). Several additional samples collected throughout the lower Laguna Madre, the Brazos Santiago Pass area, and farther north at South Padre Island beach access 5 and 6, all indicate that *K. brevis* is not present (9/18-20; TPWD). Additionally, no *K. brevis* was identified in samples collected alongshore Padre Island National Seashore at mile markers 0, 15, 30, and 45 (9/19; TPWD). This region will continue to be monitored as samples become available.

Recent MODIS imagery (9/22; shown left) is somewhat patchy alongshore the Texas coastline, limiting analysis. Elevated to high chlorophyll (2-20 $\mu\text{g/L}$) is visible stretching along- and offshore from Sabine Pass to Padre Island National Seashore. Elevated chlorophyll (1-3 $\mu\text{g/L}$) is also visible stretching along- and offshore from Padre to South Padre Island.

Forecast models based on predicted near-surface currents indicate a potential maximum transport of 20 km south from the Port Aransas region and 20 km north from the Brazos Santiago Pass region from September 22-27.

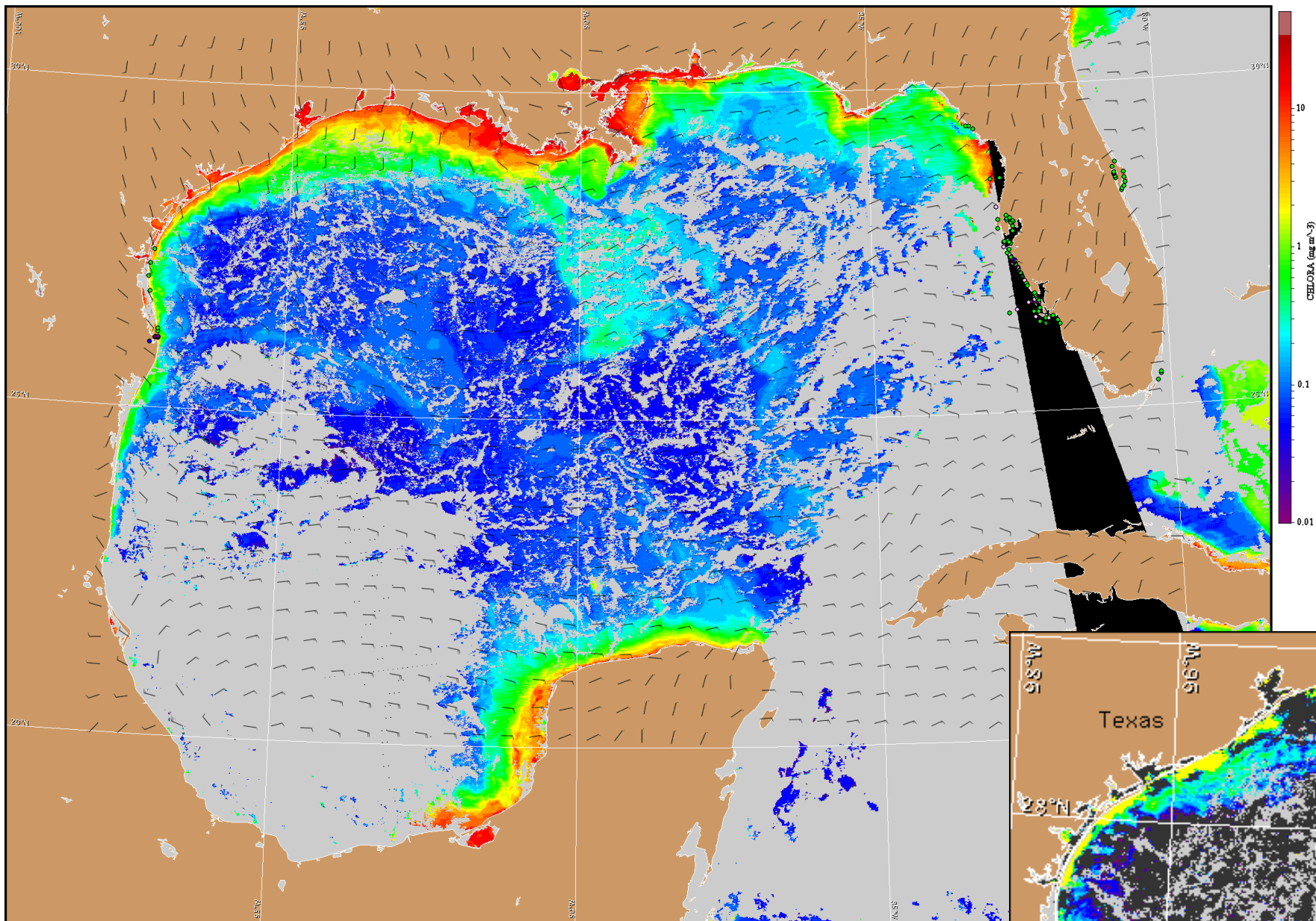
Derner, Davis



Wind speed and direction are averaged over 12 hours from buoy measurements. Length of line indicates speed; angle indicates direction. Red indicates that the wind direction favors upwelling near the coast. Values to the left of the dotted vertical line are measured values; values to the right are forecasts. Wind observation and forecast data provided by NOAA's National Weather Service (NWS).

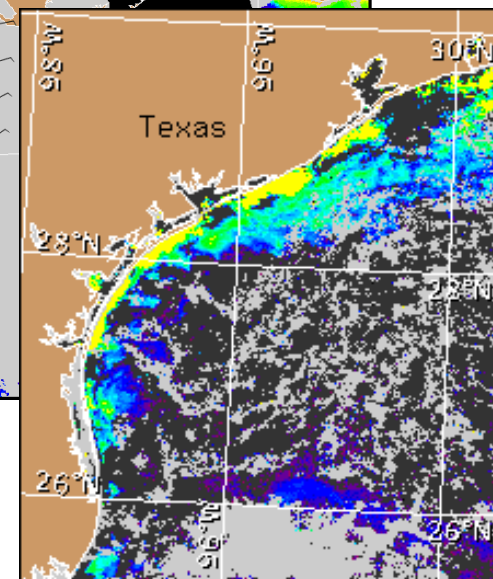
Wind Analysis

Port Aransas: Southeast winds (5-20kn, 3-10m/s) today through Wednesday. East winds (10-15kn, 5-8m/s) Thursday becoming southeast (5-15kn, 3-8m/s) Thursday night through Friday.



Satellite chlorophyll image and forecast winds for September 25, 2012 12Z with cell concentration sampling data from September 14 to 21 shown as red (high), orange (medium), yellow (low b), brown (low a), blue(very low b), purple (very low a), pink (present), and green (not present). For a list of cell count data providers and a key to the cell concentration categories, please see the HAB-OFS bulletin guide:

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Verified and suspected HAB areas shown in red. Other areas of high chlorophyll concentration shown in yellow (see p. 1 analysis for interpretation).